



photo by Tom Moser

### Loon Update

Each year we publish the "stages of baby loon development" for the loons hatched on the island outside our window. Two fuzzy chicks hatched June 6 and as of June 14, they are still visible on the lake. DL residents can once again keep watch for the growth milestones (from Loonwatch brochure):

at hatching: fuzzy black chicks ride on parents' backs to stay warm, conserve energy, and keep safe from predators like eagles, large fish, and snapping turtles. Parents feed steadily to feed themselves and chicks. Any disturbance of this process hinders the loon's ability to provide for its young. Loons may announce that someone is coming too close by giving the tremolo call, standing on the water, rowing with their wings, splashing before a dive, and trying to look large. If not left alone, they may abandon their family in helpless frustration. Week 3: chicks turn chocolate brown Week 4: parents encourage chicks to catch own food by dropping fish in shallow water for youngsters to capture/chicks reach one-third of adult size. Week 5: chicks become adolescent and gray contour feathers emerge. They are left alone for short periods while parents fish and socialize. August: Week 1: chicks are 2/3 adult size and beginning to support themselves though they still beg for food. Week 2: the best time for cautious loon watching from a distance/Unfortunately, chicks mistake fishing bait for an easy meal and are injured. Week 3: Parents leave chicks for extended periods Week 4: Adults teach chicks to fly by practicing take-offs/chicks row with their wings and paddle with their feet back and forth across the lake. September: Week 1: Parents leave young and gather in social groups of 3 to 200 loons. They feed intensively and rest in preparation for migration. Week 2: Young loons remain on the natal lake or fly to nearby lakes to find other juveniles. Week 3: Loons born before mid June (like ours) reach adult size. Week 4: Adults begin to migrate at flight speeds of 60-100mph to coastal areas.

Juveniles follow later and remain in the south for 2 or more years. The winter loon molts to gray color, does not call, and its red eye fades until it returns to the Northwoods.

### Bob and Pam Jacobel

Bob and Pam Jacobel, daughter Allison (16) and son Brian (13) are from Northfield, MN where Bob is a professor of physics at St. Olaf College and Pam has a private practice in psychology. The Jacobel's have been coming to the Chequamegon area since 1972 when Bob and Pam were in graduate school. Bob says they began looking seriously to locate here about 10 years ago when they started to plan retirement. Family members like to hike and cross-country ski and Pam is an avid fisherman who is learning to tie her own flies. Right now you may see them on Diamond Lake in a double sea kayak but Pam is looking for a small boat and motor more suitable for her fishing interests.

### Stressed Fish

Mitch Winter noted the following in May: "My son and I were fishing on Memorial Day weekend and noticed a lot of dead fish in the lake. We noticed dead bluegills all over the lake. They were mostly 3"-4" long. We didn't remember seeing any dead fish when we put the boat in on the weekend of May 7th. In fact, we saw a lot of small minnows near the shore. We also found several dead bullheads floating in different locations.

Next we found a dead northern near our

dock. Its gills were still red and it looked like it had just died. We picked it up with the net to measure it. It was 30" long. This is the longest we had seen. The back part of the fish appeared discolored and it looked like it may have a wound in front of the tail. We took a picture. Some of the other northern we caught on the weekend also appeared to have discolored areas and sores.

Lastly, we must have seen about 6 large bass dead on the bottom in different parts of "walleye" bay. I would guess the size in the 14" to 18" range.

Has anyone seen this in past years? Is this normal for this lake?" Mitch Winter

DNR fish specialist, Susan Marcquenski responded::

"It is that time of year again when conditions in lakes, rivers and hatcheries are optimal for columnaris outbreaks. Just to remind everyone, when water temps reach 65 to 70F, and rain events cause organic material to run into natural waterbodies, conditions are excellent for the columnaris bacteria (*Flavobacterium columnare*) to thrive and multiply. Combine this with increases in spawning hormones (or other stress) which suppress the fishes' immune system, and you have the ideal recipe for a columnaris outbreak. Often just a single species/yearclass is affected. Other times, a multi-species kill can occur. The most commonly affected fish in Wisconsin are bluegills, crappies, yellow perch and bullheads. I have attached a few scanned photos from historic columnaris kills showing the characteristic yellow necrotic areas on the gills, eroded gill filaments, and sloughing skin. The bacteria are so aggressive they can also erode the maxillae and mandible. The time from infection to death can be very short (24 hours) depending on the amount of bacteria in the water and level of stress the fish experiences. The fish die from osmoregulatory imbalance. (Electrolytes leak out of the eroded/necrotic areas). If you can see these signs in fish from a fish kill that occurs in late

May through early June, the cause is likely columnaris and there is no need to send fish to Madison for necropsy.

Note from Mitch Winter 6/21/05" I'm happy to report that we have seen no additional dead fish or fish that look wounded or stressed during fishing the past few weekends. Hopefully this was a one-time thing."

### **Get the Lead OUT**(of our lakes)

As most lake property owners are aware, lead sinkers and jigs can kill or damage loons and mammals. One sinker can kill a loon in three weeks. The loons mistake the lead for gravel used to digest their food.

Minnesota has taken positive action to prevent more lead from accumulating in lakes. There are regular tackle exchanges offered in July and August. (Most locations are located North of Duluth) Fisherpersons can bring in small lead tackle and receive samples of unleaded tackle. The new tackle is made from tungsten, glass, tin and bismuth....all nontoxic.

A more extensive discussion can be found in the Sunday June 19 Duluth News-Tribune.

**Protection of private property rights** by Peter T. Murray From the Spring05 issue of the Wisconsin Association of Lakes Newsletter <Lakes Tides.>

Over the past two years there has been much discussion and debate over the concept of private property rights, particularly when new laws and their corresponding regulations are concerned. Specifically, proposed changes to the Department of Natural Resources administrative rule NR 115 (shoreland zoning standards) and regulations stemming from 2003 Act 118 (the Jobs Creation Act) dealing with piers and wharves (NR 326) are being reviewed and will go out for public comment or final review this summer or early fall.

There are those who suggest that these regulations challenge private property rights. But, aren't such regulations necessary to protect private property rights? There are

speed limit laws on our roads and highways, not to limit the rights of those who would speed, but to protect the rights of those that might be injured by those that speed. Do we have enough law enforcement officers to catch all speeders? No, but does that mean we shouldn't have the laws? Absolutely not! There are laws against driving under the influence of alcoholic beverages. Are these laws to harm the rights of those that would drive drunk? No, they are there to protect the private rights of those that might be harmed by a drunken driver. Do we do a good job of enforcing these laws? That's debatable, but we must have them.

A regulation such as NR 326 (piers and wharves) is necessary to protect the private property rights of those that want to enjoy good fisheries and a healthy lake. The proposed rules under NR 115 (shoreland regulations) are necessary to protect the private property rights of all those who want clean water, natural scenic beauty, and high property values because of a healthy lake. We cannot have the absence of these regulations. That would permit the few to satisfy their personal wants at a cost to everyone else.

When discussing the proposed regulations last December, a member of the legislature said several times, "Be careful." I would agree that we need to be careful what we wish for. If we have no rules, or very limited rules as some are requesting, your private property rights will be compromised by those that care only for themselves. We all have rights. Let's protect them.

\* text of NR326 and NR115 can be found at For NR 326, please go to: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/fhp/waterway/pierrulesupdates.shtml#b3> for several options.

The proposed rule on the website is from last October. [http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/fhp/waterway/proposedrules/nr326\\_stakeholderproposal.pdf](http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/fhp/waterway/proposedrules/nr326_stakeholderproposal.pdf). However, this rule is being changed, and will probably go to the Natural Resources Board in August.

For NR 115, go to the following website. This will give you several options for information on the proposed rule: <http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/wm/dsfm/shore/news.htm>.

The proposed rule itself is at: [http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/wm/dsfm/shore/documents/115 PH order.pdf](http://dnr.wi.gov/org/water/wm/dsfm/shore/documents/115_PH_order.pdf).

## **Property Values for Clean, Clear Water**

In a recent issue of the Wisconsin Lakes Newsletter, Sam Lewis writes,"

We can look at residential and commercial real estate values to place a value on clean water or proximity to water. A Spooner realtor gave me [Sam Lewis] these values:

- Average cost of a 2-acre lot near Spooner: \$20-25,000.
- Average cost of a lot on a low quality body of water: \$45-50,000.
- The same lot on a medium quality lake: \$100-125,000.
- The same lot on a high quality lake: \$200,000+.
- Finally, that lot on a premium, clear lake could be worth \$300,000 or more."

## **LIGHTING ETIQUETTE**

At deep dusk on a late summer evening, a lake resident turned on the exterior garage lights to guide the arrival of his daughter. The family readied itself for sleep when #1 Son stepped out of the shower to check the strange sounds at the bath window. He found a sixty-some neighbor hurling pebbles at the window. The neighbor crossly asked if #1 Son could turn off those xx@lights which shone through the spruces into their window. These new lake residents were quickly immersed in lake lighting issues.

At the June 11 Diamond Lake Board of Directors meeting, two other sets of lake neighbors learned that all-night lights, believed to be non-nuisance, actually shone into each other's windows.

"Sensible Shoreland Lighting" is a booklet produced by the Wisconsin lakes Partnership. The booklet offers suggestions to preserve the beauty of the night. Perhaps the easiest implementations are shielding the light and installing motion detector lights instead of dusk to dawn security lights. The Bayfield County zoning board has created suggestions to avoid such potential conflicts. The "Property Owner's Guide for Protecting & Managing Shorelands in Bayfield County" states that all outdoor lighting within 300 feet of the shore is required to be "controlled so as not to shine up into the sky or onto any neighboring property or onto navigable waters. This may be accomplished by use of fully shielded cut-off fixtures, directing light fixtures downward rather than upwards or by other similarly effective means, Where lighting is for security purposes or to illuminate walkways, ...only fully shielded cut-off style light fixtures shall be used."The ordinance can be viewed on the Bayfield County web site at: <http://www.bayfieldcounty.org/Ordinance/PDF/Section13/ZONING%20SECTION%2013-Article%20B-Sec%2013-1-20%20thru%2013-1-39.pdf>.

#### Minutes 2004 Diamond Lakers' Association

The 2004 meeting of the Diamond Lakers' Association was opened at 3:09 p.m. August 7, 2004 by President, Jerry Robotka. Jerry expressed appreciation to Nancy and Tim Tully for hosting the meeting. Nineteen cabins were represented and nine proxies were received.

Minutes of the 2003 meeting were approved; as was the treasurer's report (balance on hand \$1941.02).

Reports :

The nominating committee(Bruce Hendrickson) presented the names of Ellie Rath, Mitch Winter, and Bruce Pankonin to fill one vacancy on the Board of Directors. He presented Dianne Klump to fill the secretary position. Dianne was elected secretary; Ellie was persuaded to serve as president, Mitch Winter will join the Board and Bruce Pankonin will serve as alternate to serve when Jim DeRoma sells his property. According to the ByLaws, the vice president and treasurer are to be elected in the next year. The outgoing president continues on the Board of Directors for the coming year.

Fish Report: Scott Toshner of the DNR presented the Fish Report: his report was presented separately in the August 04 issue of the Newsletter.

Appointment of the Nominating Committee: Jerry Robotka requested the Nominating Committee and the Social Committee be sustained for the coming year. Nominating Committee members are Sue Reichert, Susan Upchurch, Bruce Hendrickson, and Chuck Rath. Social Committee: Dave Reichert offered to remain as chair of the social committee. He offered his home as for the 2005 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15pm. The social hour catered by Heather Wangaard was held at the Tully's home.

#### Wisconsin PWC (JetSki) Rules

- No-wake speeds within 200 feet of shore
- Wear approved life vest
- If age 12-16, must have water safety course certificate
- No operation at night
- No operation within 100 feet of a waterskier or waterskier's boat
- No operation while facing backward
- No towing anyone unless craft is designed to seat at least 3 people
- No jumping the wake of another boat within 100 feet of the boat.

Violations of boating, fishing, ATV, or illegal shoreline work:

call Mark DeSalvo 798-4422

Violations of boating, ATV, Snowmobile: call Larry Loch at 715-373-6120 or 798-3279(home)

Ambulance: 798-3200 or 763-3200

Fire:763-3200

Forest Fire: 715-373-6165

**post near phone**



Diamond Lakers  
Cable, WI 54821  
June 22, 2005

Sue and Ellie confer on Annual Meeting details

Dear Diamond Lakers,

Your Board of Directors met on June 11 to plan the annual meeting. The 2005 Annual Meeting will be held Saturday, August 20, beginning at 3:30 p.m., and will be followed by a social hour with hors d'oeuvres for \$5 per person. Sue and Dave Reichert have offered to host this meeting. Their address is 473100 Twin Pines Lane. The Board of Directors send a heartfelt cheer of appreciation for the Reichert's offer! Sue and Dave ask that we bring chairs.

The program from 3:30-4:30 starts at Sandersons (20205 N. Diamond Lake Dr). Sarah Boles will conduct a Native Garden Workshop tour with glimpses of 2 gardens on the lake. The Annual Meeting of the Diamond Lakers will start at 5 pm at Reicherts.

Copies of the "nearly final" Fish Report by Scott Toshner, DNR, will be available to examine during the social hour.

The agenda for the annual meeting was set as follows:

Introductions, Approval minutes, Treasurer report, Report of Northwest Lakes Conference by Diamond Lakers representative, Election of Officers and Board of Directors (The nominating committee chaired by Bruce Hendrickson will prepare a slate of candidates. Two new Board of Directors are also to be elected.) Election of social committee, Appointment of Nominating committee, Other business will include the Sign Board, review of dock policies and lighting suggestions, Input from Members. Adjourn

Please consider whether you might be able to serve as an officer for our lake.

Please return by **August 13** the enclosed reservations, or proxy *along with your dues* to: (Note that currently paid dues determine eligibility to cast the vote. One vote per property)

Diamond Lakers c/o Larry Sanderson  
20205 N. Diamond Lake Dr.  
Cable, WI 54821

Sincerely,  
Ellie Rath, President, Diamond Lakers

**Reservation Form: *Door Prizes Awarded to those who se reservations and dues are received by August 3.***

I will be attending the annual meeting and here is my check for \$10.00 for 2005 dues. Please bring chairs.

I would like to stay for the social hour and here is \$ 5 per per person for hors d'oeuvres. Please bring chairs.  
(number attending \_\_\_\_\_)

I cannot attend the 2005 annual meeting but here is my check for \$10.00 dues and my proxy.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Property Location \_\_\_\_\_

**PROXY**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ will not be attending the 2005 Annual Meeting of the Diamond Lakers and hereby authorize Ellie Rath (or \_\_\_\_\_) to cast my vote on business that may be brought up.

Signed. \_\_\_\_\_



